

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 73

Introduced by Assembly Member Portantino

May 11, 2009

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 73—Relative to the Early College High School Initiative.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 73, as introduced, Portantino. Early College High School Week.

This measure would recognize the week of May 4 through 10 as National Early College High School Week and the month of May as Early College High School Month in California and honor the commitment and success of the Early College High School Initiative.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, For every 10 California students who enroll in high
- 2 school only seven graduate, just over three enroll in college, and
- 3 fewer than two complete an Associate's or Bachelor's degree
- 4 within 150 percent of the standard time; and
- 5 WHEREAS, California's economy increasingly depends on the
- 6 educational achievement of its fastest-growing population groups,
- 7 which are the same young people that many high schools leave
- 8 behind; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Sixty-one California early college high schools
- 10 provide a bold solution to educating high school students, at a time
- 11 when California's economic competitiveness depends on ensuring
- 12 an education that enables all students to acquire the skills that meet
- 13 21st century workforce needs; and

1 WHEREAS, Early college high schools blend high school and
2 college coursework to allow low-income, first-generation college
3 goers, English language learners, students of color, and other
4 underrepresented youth to simultaneously earn a high school
5 diploma and an Associate's degree or up to two years of credit
6 toward a Bachelor's degree; and

7 WHEREAS, Studies have found that states can realize significant
8 returns on investments in early college high schools, with state
9 returns for every dollar spent estimated between \$1.33 and \$2.11
10 more than traditional high schools over the course of 15 years, and
11 \$2.51 to \$3.95 more over the course of 25 years; now, therefore,
12 be it

13 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
14 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature recognizes May 4 through
15 10 as the national Early College High School Week and the month
16 of May as Early College High School Month in California for early
17 college high schools and their partners in the state that bring
18 together students, administrators, parents, community leaders, and
19 legislators to honor the commitment and success of the Early
20 College High School Initiative; and be it further

21 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
22 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.